

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, all the claims presently pending in the application, are understood as being allowed, once the Examiner's concern over clarification of which IEEE 1394 is intended in the claims has been addressed formally on the record. Claims 14-20 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over US Patent 6,389,547 to James et al. Cancellation of these claims renders this rejection moot.

It is noted that Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

This rejection is respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 as being indefinite for failing to define which year to which the recited IEEE 1394 standard is referring.

In response, Applicant declares that the reference to the IEEE 1394 standard in claims 1 and 2 is intended as referring substantially to the basic concepts and principles described in the version in effect in the year of filing of the US Application.

However, it is noted that, to the extent that such basic concepts and principles remain in effect in subsequent versions of the IEEE 1394 standard and do not contradict the principles of the present invention, the claimed invention is intended as covering subsequent versions of the IEEE 1394 standard that share these basic concepts and principles in a non-contradicting manner.

Applicant believes that the above statement appropriately addresses the Examiner's concern and respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

For the reasons stated above, the claimed invention is now fully patentable over the cited reference James.

II. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-13, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date:

1/19/05



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